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COMPRESSED IMAGE PRODUCTION, STORAGE, TRANSMISSION AND PROCESSING

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a method for producing an image of an object storing, transmitting and processing the same.

In this application, "object" means any entity that can be defined, in principle, by geometrical and/or mathematical data and/or geometrical or mathematical or empirical relationships, such as functions, correlations, regressions, lines and surfaces, etc. It is irrelevant whether the object is so complex that the number of data and/or relationships required to define it is so great that complete or exact definition is practically impossible. It is also irrelevant how many dimensions the object has. The object may be a physical one, such as a picture, a line, a surface, a solid, a tri-dimensional object or a landscape, etc., or an abstract one, such as a tensor, a form defined in a continuum having more than three dimensions, etc.; or it may be constituted by an array of data which have only a conceptual relationship with one another.

"Image" means any entity that represents an object exactly, or more or less approximately. The image may have the same nature as the object it represents, as when, e.g., it is the reproduction of a picture or an array of data representing another array of data; it may be an image in the common

meaning of the word, as when, e.g., it is a picture of a person or a landscape; or it may be quite different in nature from the object, as when, e.g., it consists of a plurality of numerical data representing a physical entity. "Intermediate image" means an image that is produced for the purpose of transforming it later into a different image of the same object, as when, e.g., a set of numbers temporarily represent a geometrical form and a geometrical image is to be developed from them. When such transformation occurs, the image finally produced will be called hereinafter "the final image". An image which is to be processed in any way elaborated to produce another image of the same nature - e.g. a first set of numbers from which another set of numbers is to be obtained, by any appropriate procedure, said other set of numbers being an intermediate or a final image, will be called a "temporary image", which, if the processing is a correction or adjustment, is an "unadjusted image".

In a great many technical processes, an image of an object must be produced, and quite often must be stored, transmitted or processed. For instance, it is a common occurrence that two-dimensional figures or pictures be represented by digital data which are stored, processed and transmitted, according to needs. This occurs in word processing by computers, message transmission by telefax, etc. Three-dimensional objects, including landscapes, may be represented by a process that is essentially the same. The representation of objects which have more than three dimensions involves in principle no conceptual departure from the said methods. Another common occurrence is the representation, storage and processing of data representing physical relationships, statistical

regressions or ways of experimental data. The use of mathematical models is also an instance of object representation by an image, which may be constituted by an array of digital data.

It is obviously desirable to reduce as much as possible the amount of data defining the image which represents a given object, without disorting the image to the extent that it might cease to represent the corresponding object with an acceptable degree of accuracy. Such a reduction of the required data, or "data compression" or "image compression", as it is sometimes called, serves to simplify, reduce and render more economical the equipment required for the storage of an image, its processing and transmission. For instance, it is well known that in modern technology, transmission lines, including frequency bands available for radio transmission, are increasingly overcrowded, and every effort is being made to exploit them as fully as possible, one of the means for so exploiting them being to reduce the amount of data that are sent through a given transmission line in order to convey a given amount of information.

It is a general purpose of this invention to provide a method for producing the image of an object of any kind, storing it, processing and transmitting it, while minimizing the amount of data that are required for carrying out the said operations.

More specific objects of the invention and specific applications thereof, will become apparent as the description proceeds.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following considerations are preliminary to an understanding of the process according to the invention. If the object is defined geometrically or analytically - whether by a graphic representation or a model, depending on the nature of the object, or by an array of numerical data which are assumed to define the object or in any suitable way - it may be broken uinto, viz., be considered as defined by, a plurality of components, such as lines or surfaces defined in a space which may have more than three dimensions, arrays of numerical values or functions or operators which can be represented by such lines or surfaces. For the sake of simplicity, the process according to the invention will be described firstly with a reference to an object which may be broken up into a number of plane lines, corresponding to functions of one variable. Description and definition of the process will be then expanded to those objects which must be broken up into surfaces in a three-dimensional space or in hyperspace, having more than three dimensions, corresponding to functions of two or more than two variables. Essentially the process, as described and defined, extends to compressed images of any objects that can be defined by an array of data, by software or hardware for the production and/or elaboration of digital values, such as a special purpose computer or a computer program, or by an analogical circuit or special purpose analogical computer or analogical computer program, or by digital or analogical sensors, or the like. In what follows, the term "object" will be construed as preferably meaning the physical entities and/or relationships by which the object is defined or into which the object has been translated, and which will have been stored or

memorized, as in an electronic memory, e.g. in the form of digital values or instructions relative thereto or analogical representations of functions or relationships.

In one of its simplest forms, the object, an image of which is to be constructed, may be a plane line. The object line, as any other object, may be defined in many different ways, but, for the purposes of illustration only, it will be treated as defined by a graph or by a corresponding function, being evident that the information conveyed by a graph can be conveyed in other suitable way. In any case, in order to carry out the process according to the invention, the object line must be translated into digital values or into a computer program or subroutine or an analogical process or into the structure of a special purpose digital or analogical computer, which can be entered and memorized in an elaborator, and which define couples of values x, y for each point of the line. The object line may be considered in its entirety, or, more frequently, it will be divided into segments, to each of which the process of the invention will be separately applied. Therefore, if the line has been so divided, the expression "object line", when used hereinafter, must be construed as meaning the particular segment under consideration at the moment.

The process, then, comprises, in a restrictive definition, the following steps:

(1) Approximating a line by a model which includes at least one differentiable component.

- (2) Establishing the maximum allowable error ε and the degree k of the Taylor polynomials by which the differentiable component(s) of the model are to be approximated.
- (3) Establishing at least a pitch grid h and constructing a grid each region of which has one of said pitches h.
- (4) Computing the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials of the aforesaid differentiable component or components at selected points of said grid.

Two or more of the aforesaid steps may be carried out concurrently, in whole or in part, or divided into successive stages, which may be intercalated to a greater or a lesser extent.

Further operations, hereinafter described, may be carried out and are often desirable to minimize the effect of inaccuracies in the said coefficients, for rounding them off, for taking into account different scales which may be present in the data, and for obtaining, if desired, an image which has the same nature as the object. "Non-differentiable component" means herein a component comprising one or more points at which it is not differentiable, or, a component that is not differentiable at all its points.

The process according to the invention can be extended to objects that are more complex than plane lines by simple generalizations, as will be explained hereinafter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will be better understood from the following description of preferred embodiments, with reference to the appended drawings, where:

Figs. 1a 1nd 1b illustrate an example of an object line and its image, respectively;

Figs. 2a and 2b illustrate a temporary image line the segments of which d⁻ not match at meeting points, and a corresponding adjusted image line, respectively;

Figs. 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d illustrate respectively an object line and the corresponding model line, final image and non-differentiable component of the model, with reference to Example 1;

Figs. 4a and 4b represent a picture and its image, respectively, with reference to Example 2;

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Fig. 5 represents a processed image of the picture of Fig. 4a, with reference to Example 3; and

Figs. 6a and 6b represent the negative of the picture of Fig. 4a and its image, respectively, with reference to Example 4.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The process steps hereinbefore defined will now be more fully explained.

Step (1) - The object line, the data defining which have been physically stored e.g. in an electronic memory, is approximated by a model, preferably defined in the same way as the object line, which model preferably consists of at least a first component embodying the characteristics of the object, if any, which render it non-differentiable at some points or regions - it being of course possible to omit said first component if there are no significant characteristics of non-differentiability of the object - and at least a second component which embodies all the differentiable content of the object. Typical cases of models are the following:

Case a) The first component is a base line, which is a simple - desirably, the simplest - line having qualitatively the same discontinuities as the object line, and the second component is a curve which represents the deviations therefrom of the object line, and which will be differentiable and can be called interpolating function. The base line may be constructed in each individual instance, or, more conveniently, may be chosen, according to the actual discontinuities of the object line, from a number of normal forms, which are the simplest functions having the required discontinuities. The following standard form of model can be used in this case:

(1) $\Phi(x) = Hx_0, a, b, c, d(x) + \phi(x)$

wherein H is a normal form defined by $H(x) = a(x-x_0) + b$, if $x \ge x_0$ or $H(x) = c(x-x_0) + d$, if x is less than x_0 . The values of the parameters x_0 , a,b,c,d are determined, in a preferred embodiment of the invention, by minimizing a quantity representing an error, e.g. the quadratical error, as hereinafter set forth. The base line can be predetermined, or chosen, in general

according to predermined criteria, from a list prepared in advance, or it can be chosen in each case by the operator. This case is illustrated at Fig 1a, 1b showing respectively an object line and its model.

Case b) The model is a differentiable function of another function which embodies the non-differentiable characteristics, viz the discontinuities, of the object line. It can be epressed as:

(2) $\Phi(x) = \Phi'[\phi(x)],$

wherein ϕ is the first component, which will be called the base curve, and Φ' is the second component. $\phi(x)$ can be looked at as defining a change of coordinates: in the differentiable component Φ' , the ordinates are referred to abscissae which are not x, but $\phi(x)$.

Case c) This case will be mentioned here, though it is not applicable to a line, but only to surfaces in a space having three or more dimensions. In the case of three dimensions, a coordinate (say, the elevation) z of a surface, is a function z_1 in a certain region of the plane x-y of the two remaining coordinates and is another function z_2 in another region thereof, the two regions being separated by a border line defined e.g. by a relationship $y=\phi(x)$. Then the model $\Phi(z,y)$ consists of the function z_1 if y is greater than $\phi(x)$, and z_2 if y is smaller than $\phi(x)$, one or the other of the z_1 and z_2 applying when $y=\phi(x)$.

Case d) The object line is differentiable at all points, and the model consists only of a differentiable component.

In a form of the invention, all the parameters of the model the values of which have to be chosen, are determined by minimizing a quantity representing an error - e.g. the quadratical error, viz. $\Sigma[f(x_i) - \Phi(x_i)]^2$ - the

minimization being carried out by means of a predetermined subroutine with respect to all the parameters of the model Φ , for the function f(x) representing the object, the values of f(x) for each x being determined by known subroutines. Programs for this purpose are available, e.g. from the ILSM library.

- Step (2) a) The maximum allowable error ε, which is to be tolerated i approximating the object line, viz. which expresses the desired precision of the image, is established.
- b) The degree k of the Taylor polynomials, which will be used to approximate the differentiable component or interpolating curve, is established.
- Step (3) The grid need not be cartesian and its coordinate lines may be curved, although for simplicity's sake a cartesian grid will always be illustrated herein. The grid may be divided into different regions having different grid pitches or even different types of coordinate lines. The grid pitch h (viz., the distance between adjacent coordinate lines which define the grid cells) is selected according to the precision desired of the image, and may be different in different parts of the region, although a regular grid will often be preferred.

In an embodiment of the invention, h is calculated, by a suitable subroutine, from the formula

(3) $CMh^{k+1} \le \varepsilon$

wherein C = 1/(k+1)! and M is the maximum, at each grid point, of the absolute value of the (partial, in the case of an object which is a function of more than one variable) derivatives of degree k+1 of the differentiable component or components, in the segment or zone of the object under consideration, M being determined by using a known subroutine which computes the derivatives of order k+1, produced e.g. by a package such as MAXIMA OR MATHEMATICA.

Step (4) - The nodes of the grid are taken as base points, and a (known, e.g. a MAXIMA) subroutine is applied at each base point to compute the Taylor polynomials of degree k of the interpolating curve.

At this stage, the following data have been obtained:

- A) The coefficients of the Taylor polynomials of the differentiable component or components of the model;
- B) The number or other identification or analytical definition of the non-differentiable component(s), if any, of the model, such as the base line or the base curve;
- C) The values of the parameters of the said non-differentiable component(s), if any;

and these define an image, which will usually be an intermediate image, but could be a final one, according to cases. Hereinafter it will be assumed that it is an intermediate image, from which the final image, in the same form as the original object, is to be constructed; however this is done merely for the sake of simplicity and involves no limitation.

In many cases, as will be explained below, the image thus obtained may require further elaboration without changing its nature, viz. while remaining a set of data of the same kind, and it will be only a temporary, in particular an unadjusted image. Then some or all of the steps from (5) on will be carried out.

Step (5) - In the case of the presence of so-called noise or inaccuracies insaid temporary image line, or if the numerical noise, viz. the inaccuracies of the computations, which are large in comparison with the accuracy required, the Taylor polynomials which make up the temporary image line or its differentiable component may disagree at their meeting points by more than allowed by the required accuracy, as represented, by way of example, in Fig. 2a.

In this case, an adjusted image line is constructed by applying to each differentiable component a subroutine, hereinafter "Whitney subroutine", which computes W, wherein W is a quantity representing the discrepancies of the Taylor polynomials. In particular, W can be given by formula:

(3) $W = \Sigma_{i,j} \| p_i - (p_j)_i \|^2$

Here the sum is taken over all the adjacent grid points i, j (possibly belonging to different segments of the image). p_i , p_j denote the Taylor polynomials, obtained in steps (1) - (4) at the grid points i, j, and $(p_j)_i$ denotes the polynomial p_j , expressed in coordinates, centered at the i-th grid point. $\|p-q\|^2$ denotes, for any two polynomials p and q of the same degree and number of variables, the sum of squares of the differences of corresponding coefficients.

For any values of the coefficients of p_i, W is computed by using known subroutines, produced e.g. by a package such as MATHEMATICA.

W is then minimized (e.g. by standard gradient methods), using, as starting values of the coefficient of the Taylor polynomials, those obtained by the previous steps, and under such constraints that the result of the minimization do not deviate from the initial data by more than the allowed error, e.g. under the condition that the zero degree coefficients of sai polynomials remain unchanged. An adjusted image line, corresponding to the unadjusted image line of Fig. 2a, is illustrated by way of example in Fig. 2b.

Step (6) - If the accuracy of the adjusted coefficients of the Taylor polynomials obtained from step (5) is excessive with respect to that desired in the final image, they are rounded off to a maximum allowable error ε' by any suitable method (not necessarily the same for coefficients of different degrees). The data thus obtained represent the adjusted image line.

Step (7) - Sometimes the data of the object to be represented may require the use of different grid resolutions, or such use may be desirable. An example which clarifies this case is the following.

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Let us assume that the object represents a periodic phenomenon, e.g. an oscillatory phenomenon such as an oscillating eleterical impulse or an electromagentic wave. Such a phenomenon can be analyzed and is usually represented by the combination of two or more superimposed components, specifically, a relatively low frequency carrier wave and a higher frequency modulating wave. The modulation can be sometimes considered as

resulting from a first, intermediate frequency modulation, and one or more high frequency modulation or modulations, and in this case the object will have three or more components. The image can be conveniently constructed from images of ther various components, e.g. of the carrier wave and of the modulating wave or waves, and obviously the lower frequencies will require lower resolutions and larger grid pitches will be suitable for them. Likewise, the frequency of an oscillatory phenomena may vary at different times or in different spatial regions and its components will not be superimposed, but separated in space. Similar situations may occur in various cases. Generally, many kinds of object may comprise superimposed or separated components which have details of different fineness, which require different degrees of resolution. Since oscillatory phenomena are a typical case of objects requiring different grid resolutions, the word "frequency" will be used to indicate the fineness of the required grid, but this is not to be taken as a limitation, since the same procedure can be applied to non-oscillatory phenomena.

In such cases, the following procedure is preferably followed:

- a) Steps 1 to 6 (or such among them which are necessary in the specific case) are carried out and a first temporary image is obtained.
- b) A new maximum error ϵ_2 , bigger than ϵ (or ϵ ', as the case may be) is chosen.
- c) A grid which is sparser than the one used for carrying out the steps under a), and the pitch of which is determined by the resolution required by the lowest frequency of the components existing in the object (e.g. that of a carrier wave) is established.

- d) Steps 1 to 6 are repeated using ϵ_2 and the sparser grid and a second temporary image is obtained.
- e) The second temporary image thus obtained is substracted from the first and a first residual image is obtained, which contains only data relating to higher frequency components of the object.
- f) The same procedure steps b) to e) is repeated for successively higher frequencies of components, correspondingly obtaining successiveresidual images increasingly restricted to higher frequency components.

As a result, coefficients of Taylor polynomials are obtained on several grids having increasingly higher resolutions, viz. smaller pitches, separately corresponding to the object components requiring increasingly higher resolutions.

The data obtained after steps (1) to (4) and those among (5), (6), (7), which it has been found necessary to perform, constitute an intermediate image or someyimes a final one. Usually these are the compressed data which can be stored, transmitted and processed.

If a further compression is desirable, one of the standard methods of encoding coefficients (e.g. Hoffman coding) can be applied. If necessary, the resulting string of data can be further compressed by one of the standard methods of unstructured data compression (e.g. entropy compression). However, this last step reduces the possibility of a compressed data processing.

If a final image, which has the same nature as the object, is to be constructed, the following procedure is followed:

Step (8) - a) The Taylor polynomial coefficients obtained after completion of steps (1) to (4) and of those among steps (5) and (6) which it has been found necessary to perform, are treated as if they represented an unadjusted temporary image, which is affected by noise, and are subjected once more to step (5), using them as starting data.

- b) The domain in which the temporary image has been defined is divided into regions by means of a grid, each region being a portion of the grid around a grid node or base point. These regions may overlap.
- c) A curve or curves representing the Taylor polynomials of degree k in the above regions are constructed from the coefficients defining the temporary image e.g. obtained as in step (8) a) at each node of the grid or of that grid having the highest resolution (smallest pitch), if there are more than one grid (particularly if step (7) has been carried out), using a known subroutine.

Said curve or curves constitute the final image of the object line.

The aforementioned curves may diverge at the meeting points of the regions mentioned above under b) (or on their overlapping parts). If this disagreement does not exceed the allowable error ε , any of the overlapping curves curves can be used at the meeting points on the overlapping parts of the above regions.

If as the result of the noise of the data or the computational noise, the above discrepancies are large in comparison with the accuracy required, average values can be used on the overlapping parts. This is done by

averaging the values of the overlapping curves with the appropriate weights.

Actually, other polynomials or functions could be used for approximation purposes, such as Tchebicheff polynomials, trigonometric exponential functions, etc., without departing from the invention, but Taylor polynomials are preferred.

The above described process applies, with obvious generalization, to a wide range of objects. Some examples follow.

I - A surface in a three-dimensional space corresponds to a function of two variables. If the surface is defined in a space that has more than three, say, n+1 dimensions, the independent variables will be more than two, say, $n (x_1,x_2,...x_n)$, but the operations to be carried out will be essentially the same, and the necessary generalizations will be obvious to skilled persons. In any case, any surface can be translated, as well as a line, to digitally values, which can be entered and stored. The model will be constructed in the same way as for a line. Case c) of model construction, already described, applies to surfaces in any space. Analogously to case a), a model may consists of a simple base surface, which presents the discontinuities of the object surface, and by an differentiable or interpolating surface, which represents the deviations of the object from the base surface. One can also operate analogously to case b), by using functions of more than one variable. The minimization of the quadratical error is effected in the same way as in the case of an object line, using values of $\Phi_{ij...n}$ and $f(x_i, x_j,, x_n)$

which depend on n variables. The remaining steps are likewise adapted to the existence of n variables. All derivatives, of course, will be partial derivatives. The construction of the final image from the temporary image - step (8) - can likewise be carried out with obvious generalizations in the case of images defined in a space having any number of dimensions.

II - A surface can be considered as a family of lines, which are obtained by the intersection of the surface with a family of planes, e.g. vertical planes the orientation of which is taken as that of the x-axis, identified by a parameter, e.g. their y coordinate. A family of curves in a plane, depending on one parameter, as may result from the representation of any number of phenomena, is obviously equivalent to that of a surface and may be treated as such, or vice versa.

III - A particular case of an object which is a surface is, e.g., a terrain, wherein the surface is defined by the elevation as a function of two plane (cartesian or polar) coordinates.

IV - A building can be represented in the same way, if it is very simple. If its shape is complex, however, it must be broken up into a number of component parts. However, if it is desired to represent it as it is seen from the outside, say by an observer which can place himself at any vantage point within a certain distance from the building, the observer's position can be identified by three coodinates, x, y and z (or polar coordinates), or by two, if it assumed that the observer's eye is at a given level. From each position of the observer point it is possible, if the configuration of the terrain is

known, to determine the distance D on each line of sight from the observer's eye to the building surface, and this will determine how the building is seen. Each line of sight can be identified by two coordinates: e.g. its inclination (the angle thereof with the vertical in a vertical plane which contains it), and its azimuth (the angle of said vertical plane with a reference vertical plane, e.g. one that contains the geographic or magnetic north). The way in which the building appears to the observer, is therefore defined by a function D of five variables, viz. by a surface in a six-dimensional space.

V - A family of curves in a plane, depending on more than one parameter, is obviously equivalent to a surface in a space having more than three dimensions.

VI- If in example IV above the coordinates of the observer are known as a function of a single variable, say, when he approaches the building along a given line, in which case the variable is the distance covered from a starting point, or in motion, as in a vehicle, along a given line, in which case the variable is time. In this case the variables of the surface become three (e.g. distance or time and inclination and azimuth) and the space is only four-dimensional, but the four-dimensional surface is subject to the constraint represented by the definition of the observer's motion. In general, in many cases, the degree of the space in which the surface is defined may be reduced by the introduction of suitable constraints.

VII - The final image of a colour picture is another colour picture, that is not identical, but sufficiently similar to the object picture. The object picture can be scanned by known apparatus (scanners), by means of white light, and for each point the intensity of the three basic colours (magenta, cyan and yellow) may be measured and registered. The object is thus reduced to three partial or component objects, each consisting of the distribution of one basic colour over the picture and having a physical reality, as it i equivalent to the colour picture that would be contained by exposing the original through three filters, having colours complementary to the three basic colours, or, in practice, to an array of digital data representing such one-coloured picture. Each of said partial objects can be subjected to the process of the invention, to produce a reduced or compressed array of data, constituting a partial image, and the partial images can be transformed into a combined final image approximating the original object, by processes known to those skilled in the art. If the partial images must be stored and/or transmitted, the process of the invention will facilitate doing this and render it more economical. In the same way a dynamic coloured picture, such as a movie or a TV broadcast, can be reduced to a final dynamic image.

A particular advantage and a preferred aspect of the invention consists in the possibility of processing the compressed intermediate image obtained as set forth hereinbefore and producing from it a processed final image, which does not represent the object but represents what would have been the result of processing the object. The processed intermediate image can be stored and transmitted with the already mentioned savings and advantages inherent in the reduction of the number of data, but said reduction is even more advantageous in the processing, for it is obviously more convenient to process a reduced instead of a larger amount of data. Said processing in a compressed form, as it may be called, is made possible by the following property:

Let F be an operator which is analytic in nature, viz. can be defined by mathematical relationships. Let O be an object of any nature, but which can be represented by Taylor polynomials p_i. Then by applying operator F to the p_i's, one obtains polynomials which represent the object that would be obtained by applying the operator F to the object O. If one uses the symbol = to indicate that an array of polynomials represents an object, one can write:

if
$$p_i \approx 0$$
, then $F(p_i) \approx F(0)$.

Elementary examples of analytic operators are algebraic operations, rotations of geometrical figures, changes of coordinates in general, etc. These operators are represented by mathematical operations. If F(O) is to be constructed, such operations must be carried out on all the data, e.g. digital data, which define the object. But if a compressed image has been obtained as set forth above, and an array of Taylor polynomial coefficients has been obtained, which are in a much smaller number than the said digital data, said mathematical operations can be carried out on said coefficients, and a processed intermediate image will be obtained, which represents F(O) and from which F(O) can be constructed as set forth in step (9) above.

The following examples illustrate a number of embodiments of the invention.

Example 1

An object line f in the plane (x, y) is given by an array $A = (y_0, y_1, ..., y_{100}), \text{ where } y_i = f(x_i), x_i = i/100, i = 0, 1, ..., 100. \text{ In this specific example the array (array 1) is the following:}$

0.1152	0.1155	0.1191	0.1131	0.1174	0.1133	0.1108	0.1149	0.1105
0.1182	0.1167	0.1206	0.1238	0.1196	0.1264	0.1282	0.1313	0.1315
0.1299	0.1330	0.1366	0.1409	0.1402	0.1462	0.1569	0.1608	0.1631
0.1604	0.1693	0.1779	0.1797	0.1826	0.1826	0.1888	0.1963	0.2011
0.2034	0.2084	0.2170	0.2244	0.2265	0.2327	0.2429	0.2468	0.2472
0.2523	0.2661	0.2673	0.2702	0.2796	0.2811	0.2845	0.2949	0.3022
0.3078	0.3049	0.3121	0.3157	0.3256	0.3270	0.3346	0.3413	0.3405
0.3428	0.3503	0.3515	0.3530	0.3571	0.3675	0.3616	0.4648	0.4665
0.4659	0.4607	0.4600	0.4536	0.4473	0.4441	0.4427	0.4330	0.4329
0.4268	0.4243	0.4185	0.4135	0.4107	0.3961	0.3925	0.3877	0.3774
0.3698	0.3671	0.3583	0.3449	0.3397	0.3338	0.3271	0.3091	0.3031
0.2929								

An object line itself is shown in Fig. 3a. The required accuracy of representing this line is 0.035. The compressed image of this line is produced as follows.

Firstly it is subdivided into three segments lying over the segments [0.0, 0.6], [0.6, 0.8], [0.8, 1.0] in the x-axis. The following model is chosen on the segments [0.0, 0.6] and [0.8, 1.0]:

 $y = Q(x) = c_1 \sin(\omega_1 x + \phi_1) + c_2 \cos(\omega_2 x + \phi_2) + c_3 x^2 + c_4 x + c_5$ with c_1 , c_2 , ω_1 , ω_2 , ϕ_1 , ϕ_2 , c_3 , c_4 , c_5 - the parameters.

On the segment [0.6, 0.8] the following model is chosen:

 $y = Q(x) + Hx_0$, a, b, c, d (x), where Q(x) is as above, and the normal form H is defined by $H(x) = a(x - x_0) + b$, if $x \ge x_0$ or $H(x) = c(x - x_0) + d$, if x is less than x_0 . Said normal form is illustrated in Fig. 3d. Approximation on each segment is carried out by minimization, with respect to the corresponding parameters, of the quadratic error:

 $\Sigma \, (y_i$ - $Q(x_i) \,)^2 \, (\Sigma \, (y_i$ - $Q(x_i)$ - $H(x_i) \,)^2$ on [0.6, 0.8]).

The values of the parameters found are given in the following array 2.

$$Q(x) = 2.0 + 0.1*x - 0.2*x*x - 0.15*cos(-0.4+4*x) - 0.2*sin(-0.3 + 0.5*x)$$

$$H(x) = 1.0/7.0 * (x-0.7) + 0.1 , x < 0.7$$

$$H(x) = -1.0/3.0 * (x-0.7) + 0.2 , x >= 0.7$$

The corresponding model curve is shown in Fig. 3b.

The error of the approximation of the object line by the model found turns out to be 0.005. Respectively, on the step 2, ϵ is chosen to be 0.03. k is chosen to be 2 on each segment.

M, equal to the maximal absolute value of the third derivative of the smooth component in the above model, as computed by the standard subroutine,

8. The maximal possible pitch h of the grid to be constructed, is defined by (1/6) M $(h/2)^3 = \varepsilon$, or $h \approx 0.24$. In order to provide a uniform grid, a smaller value h = 0.2 is chosen on each segment. The corresponding grid points are the following: 0.1, 0.3, 0.5 on [0.0, 0.6], the only grid point 0.7 on [0.6, 0.8] and the only grid point 0.9 on [0.8, 1.0]. Taylor polynomials at these points, as computed by the standard "MATHEMATICA" subroutine, are given in the following array 3.

 $\left(\cdot \right)$

Zi	a0	al	a2
0.1	0.121582031250	0.105957031250	0.993652343750
0.3	0.180175781250	0.454345703125	0.632080078125
0.5	0.285644531250	0.542724609375	-0.236083984375
0.9	0.381103515625	-0.727050781250	-1.394042968750
0.7	0.272460937500	0.125244140625	-1.083496093750

a= 0.142822265625 b= 0.099853515625

 Now the coefficients of order 0 are rounded off up to 3 digits, the coefficients of order 1 are rounded off up to 2 digits and the coefficients of order 2 up to 1 digit. The parameters of the normal form H are rounded off up to three digits. These data, listed in the following array 4 represent the intermediate compressed image.

Zi	a 0	al	a 2
0.1	0.121	0.10	C.9
0.3	0.180	0.45	0.6
0.5	0.285	0.54	-3.2
0.9	0.381	-0.72	-1.3
0.7	0.272	0.12	-1.0
a= 0.142	b= (0.100	
c= -0.333	d= (0.200	

The compression ratio is 4*100 digits/37 digits = 10.8.

The final image is obtained by computing the values of the Taylor polynomials (and the normal form H on [0.6, 0.8]) at the initial points x, i = 0, ..., 100. Each polynomial is used for x, belonging to the corresponding cell of the grid z_i . The result is shown in the following array 5.

0.1196	0.1190	0.1185	0.1183	0.1182	0.1183	0.1186	0.1190	0.1197
0.1205	0.1215	0.1227	0.1240	0.1256	0.1273	0.1292	0.1313	0.1335
0.1360	0.1386	0.1426	0.1460	0.1496	0.1532	0.1570	0.1609	0.1649
0.1691	0.1733	0.1777	0.1822	0.1868	0.1916	0.1964	0.2014	0.2065
0.2117	0.2171	0.2225	0.2281	0.2318	0.2376	0.2433	0.2490	0.2546
0.2602	0.2658	0.2713	0.2768	0.2822	0.2876	0.2930	0.2983	0.3036
0.3088	0.3140	0.3192	0.3243	0.3294	0.3344	0.3380	0.3424	0.3166
0.3506	0.3545	0.3581	0.3615	0.3648	0.3678	0:3706	0.4709	0.4685
0.4660	0.4633	0.4603	0.4572	0.4539	0.4503	0.4466	0.4427	0.4376
0.4328	0.4276	0.4223	0.4166	0.4107	0.4046	0.3981	0.3915	0.3845
0.3773	0.3699	0.3621	0.3542	0.3459	0.3374	0.3287	0.3196	0.3104
0.3008								

The corresponding final curve is shown in Fig. 3c. The maximal error in representing the object curve by the final one is 0.033.

Example 2

The object (black and white, continuous tone) picture is the standard test picture, called "Lena" (see Fig. 4a). It is represented by a 512 x 512 array, each pixel containing 8 bits, representing one of the gray levels between J and 255. The file representing this picture is available in test collections in the field of imaging. A part of this array, representing the piece S, marked on Fig. 4a, is the following.

8.3	71 91 130	78 91 118	93	91 97 118	105	115	128	143	157	172	187	201	100 223 99	97 229	94 223	89 205
90	72 89 129	79 88 118	90	92 95 118	102	112	128	143	158	172	187	202	219	103 226	99 220	95 202
94	73 86 126	85	87	93 92 118	99	109	127	141	156	171	185	200	107 214 99	105 221	102 216	98 198
95	73 83 121	80 83 118	8.5	93 89 118	97	107	123	138	153	167	182	197	106 207 100	105 214	102 210	99 193
93		80	82	94 87 118	94	104	118	133	148	162	177	192	103 198 102	102 206	100 202	97 185
89	78	77	79	95 84 118	91	101	111	126	141	155	170	185	97 187 105	96 196	95 192	_
68		80	82		88	93	94	110	128	146	164	184	51 192 94			68 146
61	83 71 122	86 72 117	74		80	84	86	102	119	137	19 156 104	176	185	59 171		
81 58 134	83 66 125		69		91 75 114	80	81	97	114	132		171	59 179 96	63 166		
60		66	68		74	78	80	96	113	131	150	170	70 173 96			67 143
66	67	68	70		76	80	82	98	115	133	152	172	85 166 96			
	73	74	76		82	86	88	104	121	139	158	178	105 160 94			

100	3 5 0	1 5 2	151	151	162	174	198	191	184	1/8	1/3	160 169 _29	TOO	188 140	195 125	198 116	
202	175	160	166	160	174	125	200	194	189	185	182	168 180 26	TPT	195 140	202 125	204 115	
7.00	106	170	174	174	120	129	193	189	185	184	183	168 182 23	TOO	194 139	200 123	202 113	
197	100	191	176	175	179	187	179	177	175	175	175	158 177 21	T28	183 .137	189 121	190 110	
166	1 2 2	178	172	770	172	179	156	156	256	158	160	140 163 18	720	164 134	169 117	170 106	ĺ
137	191	160	161	158	159	164	126	127	130	133	137	112 142 15	153	136 130	140 113	141 101	
111	134	134	131	127	121	113	110	113	116	119	122	97 125 22	111	105 100	108 93	110 91	
100	117	116	96 113 114	108	102	94	81	85	89	93	97	87 101 20	91	82			
91	103	102	82 98 117	93	86	78	61	66	71	76	81		78	72			
75 83 82	93	91	70 87 119	82	74	65	50	67 56 21	62		73			68			
66 78 92	86	84	62 80 120	74		60 56 70	48	57 55 20	62	68	75	65 82 20		72	75 74		
	58 83 127	80	56 76 120	69		51	55	48 63 20	48 70 20		85			83	71 87		

The compressed image is produced as follows: first, the picture is subdivided into square segments, containing $6 \times 6 = 36$ pixels each one. See Fig. 4a and the array S above, where one of such segments is marked.

The step 1 consists in approximating the picture on each segment by the model, which is chosen to be the quadratic polynomial

$$z = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 y + a_{11} x^2 + 2a_{12} xy + a_{22} y^2$$

where z represents the gray level, and x and y are the coordinates on to picture plane centered at the center of the corresponding segment.

The values of the coefficient "a" are found by the standard subroutine, minimizing the quadratic error of the approximation of the gray level on each segment by the model chosen.

The array of $8 \times 8 = 64$ polynomials, obtained on the segments, covering the piece S of the picture, is given in the following array 7.

```
0.010986
                              -0.0055246
                                              0.001883
                                                          -0.007146
0.37500000
                -0.0058594
                                                                      0.009208
                -0.0104353
                              -0.0276228
                                              0.007010
                                                          0.013632
0.35937500
                                             0.010149
                                                         -0.001263
                                                                      0.033064
                              0.0078125
0.31640625
                -0.0081473
                                             0.003348
                                                                     0.062360
                              0.0998326
                                                         0.014263
0.39843750
                -0.0127790
                                                          0.000459
                                                                       -0.049700
0.74218750
                -0.0247767
                              0.1643973
                                             -0.015172
                                                          -0.027809
                                             -0.009312
                                                                        -0.038191
0.70703125
               0.0304130
                             -0.2262835
                                              -0.015067
                                                           -0.003071
                                                                         0.007847
0.50781250
                              -0.0348772
                -0.0092076
                                                                     -0.004918
                             -0.0233817
                                             0.007010
                                                         0.004908
0.43359375
               0.0021763
                                                          0.027637
                                                                      0.026263
                              -0.0031808
                                              0.003348
0.33593750
                -0.0344308
                                                          0.008954
                                                                      -0.022600
                             -0.0194196
                                             -0.005022
0.37109375
               0.0164063
                                                         -0.015383
                                                                      -0.003871
                             -0.0077009
                                             0.016532
0.32421875
               0.0092634
0.38571875
                -0.0045201
                              0.0807478
                                             0.006069
                                                         -0.026834
                                                                      0.035575
0.63671875
                -0.0199777
                              0.1973214
                                             0.009626
                                                         -0.011422
                                                                      0.066127
                                             0.003558
                                                         0.016875
                                                                     -0.205811
0.81250000
               0.0224331
                             -0.2329241
                              -0.0174107
                                              -0.025321
                                                           0.024337
                                                                       0.006069
0.48828125
                -0.0261161
0.43750000
               0.0035156
                             -0.0440290
                                             -0.002511
                                                          -0.010188
                                                                        -0.007533
                                                                    0.002511
0.32031250
               0.0101563
                             0.0811384
                                            0.006278
                                                        0.006256
                                              -0.058594
                                                           -0.026260
                                                                        0.015172
0.40234375
                -0.0292969
                              -0.0090960
                                                           0.022643
0.40234375
               -0.0013951
                              -0.0376674
                                              -0.050642
                                                                       -0.022391
0.33984375
               -0.0376116
                              0.0617188
                                             0.004290
                                                         -0.008265
                                                                      0.046980
                                                          0.004305
                                                                      0.006173
0.63281250
                -0.0425223
                              0.1786830
                                             -0.036516
0.80468750
               -0.0712053
                              -0.2079241
                                              -0.040388
                                                           0.029043
                                                                       -0.234375
                                                          -0.009184
                                                                       -0.011300
                                             -0.000314
0.45703125
               -0.0006696
                              0.0003348
                                                         0.019056
                                             0.020299
                                                                     -0.000732
0.41015625
                             -0.0319196
               0.0016741
                                             0.020194
                                                         -0.052519
                                                                      0.014544
0.33203125
               -0.0089286
                              0.0193080
0.21093750
                                                                     0.077009
               0.1237165
                             -0.0967076
                                             0.060059
                                                         0.156036
                                            0.087995
                                                        -0.093673
                                                                     -0.055455
0.25781250
               0.0914063
                             0.0062500
0.26562500
                              0.0343192
                                             0.074916
                                                         -0.002899
                                                                      0.018101
               -0.0221540
0.47265625
               -0.0229911
                              0.2156250
                                             0.078055
                                                         0.008839
                                                                     0.015904
                                                           0.072006
                                                                       0.021240
0.57812500
               -0.0305245
                              -0.1201451
                                              -0.003557
                                             0.014230
                                                         -0.028096
                                                                      0.001674
0.44531250
               0.0000558
                             -0.0220424
                                                                       -0.016950
0.41015625
                                              -0.019148
                                                           0.008409
               -0.0073103
                              -0.0318638
0.43750000
                                             -0:033378
                                                          0.020663
                                                                      -0.000732
               0.0410714
                             -0.0239955
                                                                     0.016218
0.36718750
               0.0566406
                             0.0056362
                                            0.014962
                                                        -0.005309
0.48046875
                                                        0.096687
                                                                    -0.109236
               0.1614397
                             0.0278460
                                            0.038295
0.53906250
               0.1313058
                             0.1659040
                                            -0.128697
                                                         0.012025
                                                                     0.054618
                                                                       -0.031076
0.71093750
               0.0371094
                             -0.0090960
                                             -0.059326
                                                          -0.061617
                                                                       0.015486
0.53125000
               -0.0079799
                              -0.0807478
                                              0.012347
                                                          -0.010418
0.44921875
                                              -0.008789
                                                           0.007950
                                                                       0.000000
               -0.0116630
                              -0.0317522
               -0.0111607
0.38671875
                              -0.0160714
                                              -0.011300
                                                           0.000402
                                                                       0.000000
0.45703125
                                                                     -0.002302
               0.0071429
                             -0.0061384
                                             0.010568
                                                         0.007691
0.46093750
               0.0342634
                            0.0351562
                                            0.001988
                                                        0.005568
                                                                    0.035261
0.73828125
               0.0527344
                            0.0965960
                                            -0.012660
                                                         -0.018109
                                                                      -0.150774
0.59765625
               0.0304687
                            0.0774553
                                            -0.012556
                                                         -0.041212
                                                                      0.146589
0.71375000
               0.0060268
                            -0.0338170
                                             -0.019880
                                                          -0.024452
                                                                        -0.011405
0.51171875
                                                                        0.015695
               -0.0079799
                             -0.0932478
                                              -0.001569
                                                           -0.002612
0.43750000
               -0.0044085
                             -0.0244978
                                              0.009312
                                                          -0.004334
                                                                       -0.033064
0.37500000
               -0.0677456
                              -0.1410714
                                              0.003557
                                                          -0.121397
                                                                       -0.143032
0.45703125
                                             0.024484
                                                         0.014522
                                                                     -0.005650
               -0.0024554
                             0.0328125
               -0.0028460
                                             -0.024170
                                                          -0.036993
0.51171875
                             0.0307478
                                                                       0.026681
0.75390625
               -0.1251674
                             0.0778460
                                             -0.168248
                                                          -0.019142
                                                                        -0.088518
0.58359375
                                            -0.122001
               0.0162947
                            0.0053571
                                                         -0.059694
                                                                      0.078265
0.70703125
               -0.1199218
                             -0.0175781
                                              -0.155797
                                                           0.070226
                                                                       0.024379
                                                                        0.101597
0.44921875
               -0.0365513
                             -0.1284040
                                              -0.030866
                                                           -0.027522
                                            0.000628
0.41796875
               -0.0125000
                             0.0001116
                                                         0.019687
                                                                     -0.008161
0.15234375
               -0.0695313
                             -0.1944197
                                             0.006906
                                                          0.062679
                                                                      0.108608
0.29296875
                                             0.060582
                                                          0.000373
                                                                      0.015695
               -0.1353237
                             -0.0140067
0.27734375
                                             0.019357
                                                          0.018683
                                                                      0.025635
               -0.1326451
                             -0.0152344
0.32031250
               -0.0872768
                             0.0389509
                                            0.044155
                                                         -0.000804
                                                                      -0.024902
                                                                       -0.042585
0.34765625
               -0.1336496
                             -0.0653460
                                             0.070103
                                                          -0.026145
0.26171875
                                                         0.038772
               -0.1049665
                                                                     -0.000419
                             0.0693639
                                            0.164062
0:26562500
                                                       0.086556
                                                                    0.090193
               0.0065848
                            0.0437500
                                           0.130371
                                              -0.031076
                                                                        -0.156948
0.43750000
               -0.0600446
                             -0.1228795
                                                           -0.157902
0.07421875
               -0.0148995
                             -0.0127790
                                             0.015904
                                                          0.030048
                                                                      0.013079
```

(The coefficients are given after rescaling the x and y variables to the square [-1, 1] [-1, 1], and the gray level z to [0, 1]).

Step 2 The required accuracy ε is chosen to be 5 gray levels, k is fixed to be 2, and the grid on each segment is chosen to contain the only point - the center of this segment. Thus the Taylor polynomials computed on this step are identical to the approximating polynomials found on the step 1.

The 6 digits accuracy with which the coefficients of these polynomials are given in the array P above is excessive, and the coefficients are rounded off up to 8 bits in degree 0, up to 7 bits in degree 1 and up to 6 bits in degree 2.

The corresponding binary array is the intermediate compressed image. It is approximately represented by the following digital array P' (corresponding to the same piece S of the picture, as the above array P).

```
0.000000
                                                       0.000000
                            0.0000000
                                           0.000000
0.37500000
               0.0000000
                                                                     0.00000
                                                         0.000000
                                             0.000000
                             -0.0234375
0.35937500
               -0.0078125
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    0.031250
                             0.0000000
                                            0.000000
0.31640625
               -0.0078125
                                                                    0.046875
                                            0.000000
                                                        0.000000
                             0.0937500
0.39843750
               -0.0078125
                                            0.000000
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    -0.046875
               -0.0234375
                             0.1640625
0.74218750
                                                        -0.015625
                                            0.000000
                                                                      -0.031250
                             -0.2187500
0.70703125
               0.0234375
                                                         0.000000
                                                                     0.000000
                                             0.000000
                             -0.0312500
0.50781250
               -0.0078125
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    0.000000
               0.0000000
                            -0.0156250
                                            0.000000
0.43359375
                                                        0.015625
                                                                    0.015625
                                            0.000000
0.33593750
               -0.0312500
                             0.0000000
                                                                    -0.015625
                                                        0.000000
0.37109375
               0.0156250
                            -0.0156250
                                            0.000000
                                                       0.000000
                                                                   0.000000
                            0.0000000
                                           0.015625
0.32421875
               0.0078125
                                                       -0.015625
                                                                    0.031250
                                           0.000000
0.38671875
               0.0000000
                            0.0781250
                                                                    0.062500
                             0.1953125
                                            0.00000
                                                        0.000000
0.63671875
               -0.0156250
                                            0.000000
                                                        0.015625
                                                                    -0.203125
                            -0.2265625
0.81250000
               0.0156250
                                                          0.015625
                                                                       0.000000
                             -0.0156250
                                             -0.015625
0.49218750
               -0.0234375
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    0.000000
               0.0000000
                                            0.000000
0.43750000
                            -0.0390625
                                           0.000000
                                                                   0.000000
                                                       0.000000
0.32031250
               0.0078125
                            0.0781250
                                                           -0.015625
                                                                        0.000000
                                             -0.046875
                             -0.0078125
               -0.0234375
0.40234375
                                                                     -0.015625
               0.0000000
                                            -0.046875
                                                         0.015625
                            -0.0312500
0.40234375
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    0.046875
                             0.0546875
                                            0.000000
0.33984375
               -0.0312500
                                                         0.000000
                                                                      0.000000
                                            -0.031250
               -0.0390625
                             0.1718750
0.63281250
                             -0.2031250
                                             -0.031250
                                                          0.015625
                                                                       -0.218750
0.80468750
               -0.0703125
                                                                   0.000000
                            0.0000000
                                           0.000000
                                                       0.000000
               0.0000000
0.45703125
                                                        0.015625
                                                                    0.000000
0.41015625
               0.000000
                            -0.0312500
                                            0.015625
                                                                     0.000000
0.33203125
               -0.0078125
                             0.0156250
                                            0.015625
                                                        -0.046875
                                                                    0.062500
                                                        0.140625
                                            0.046875
0.21093750
               0.1171875
                             -0.0937500
                                                                    -0.046875
                                                       -0.078125
                            0.0000000
                                           0.078125
0.25781250
               0.0859375
                                                        0.00000
                                                                    0.015625
                             0.0312500
                                            0.062500
0.26562500
               -0.0156250
                                                                    0.015625
                                                        0.000000
                             0.2109375
                                            0.062500
0.47656250
               -0.0156250
                                                         0.062500
                                                                      0.015625
0.57812500
               -0.0234375
                             -0.1171875
                                             0.000000
                                                                      0.000000
                                                        -0.015625
                             -0.0156250
                                             0.00000
0.44531250
               0.000000
                                                         0.000000
                                                                      -0.015625
               0.0000000
                            -0.0312500
                                             -0.015625
0.41015625
                                                          0.015625
                                             -0.031250
                                                                      0.000000
0.43750000
               0.0390625
                            -0.0234375
                            0.000000
                                                                   0.015625
                                           0.00000
                                                       0.000000
0.36718750
               0.0546875
                                           0.031250
                                                                    -0.093750
                                                       0.093750
0.48437500
               0.1562500
                            0.0234375
                                                        0.000000
                                                                     0.046875
0.53906250
               0.1250000
                            0.1640625
                                           -0.125000
                                            -0.046875
                                                         -0.046875
                                                                       -0.015625
0.71093750
                            -0.0078125
               0.0312500
                                             0.000000
                                                          0.000000
                                                                      0.000000
0.53125000
               -0.0078125
                             -0.0781250
0.44921875
                             -0.0312500
                                             0.000000
                                                          0.000000
                                                                      0.000000
               -0.0078125
                                                          0.000000
                                                                      0.000000
0.38671875
               -0.0078125
                             -0.0156250
                                             0.000000
                                                       0.000000
                                                                   0.000000
0.45703125
               0.0000000
                            0.0000000
                                           0.000000
                                                       0.000000
                                                                    0.031250
0.46093750
                                           0.000000
               0.0312500
                            0.0312500
0.73828125
                                                       -0.015625
                                                                     -0.140625
               0.0468750
                            0.0937500
                                           0.000000
0.59765625
               0.0234375
                            0.0703125
                                           0.000000
                                                       -0.031250
                                                                     0.140625
                                                          -0.015625
                                                                       0.000000
0.71875000
               0.000000
                            -0.0312500
                                             -0.015625
                                                         0.000000
                                             0.000000
                                                                      0.015625
0.51171875
               -0.0078125
                             -0.0859375
0.43750000
                                            0.000000
                                                        0.000000
                                                                     -0.031250
               0.0000000
                            -0.0234375
                                                                       -0.140625
0.37500000
               -0.0625000
                             -0.1406250
                                             0.000000
                                                         -0.109375
                                                                   0.000000
0.45703125
                                           0.015625
                                                       0.000000
               0.0000000
                            0.0312500
0.51171875
               0.0000000
                            0.0234375
                                           -0.015625
                                                        -0.031250
                                                                      0.015625
                                            -0.156250
                                                         -0.015625
                                                                       -0.078125
0.75390625
               -0.1250000
                             0.0703125
                                                        -0.046875
0.68359375
                                           -0.109375
                                                                     0.078125
               0.0156250
                            0.0000000
                                                          0.062500
                                                                       0.015625
0.70703125
                                             -0.140625
               -0.1171875
                             -0.0156250
                                             -0.015625
0.44921875
               -0.0312500
                             -0.1250000
                                                          -0.015625
                                                                        0.093750
                                            0.000000
                                                        0.015625
                                                                    0.000000
0.41796875
               -0.0078125
                             0.0000000
0.15234375
               -0.0625000
                                             0.000000
                                                         0.062500
                                                                     0.093750
                             -0.1875000
                                                         0.000000
                                                                     0.015625
0.29296875
               -0.1328125
                             -0.0078125
                                             0.046875
                                             0.015625
                                                         0.015625
                                                                     0.015625
0.27734375
               -0.1250000
                             -0.0078125
                                            0.031250
                                                        0.000000
                                                                    -0.015625
0.32031250
               -0.0859375
                             0.0312500
                                                                       -0.031250
0.34765625
               -0.1328125
                             -0.0625000
                                             0.062500
                                                         -0.015625
                                                                    0.000000
0.25171875
                                            0.156250
                                                        0.031250
               -0.1015625
                             0.0625000
                            0.0390625
                                                       0.078125
                                                                   0.078125
0.26562500
               0.0000000
                                           0.125000
                                                                        -0.156250
0.43750000
                                             -0.015625
                                                          -0.156250
               -0.0546875
                             -0.1171875
                                             0.015625
                                                                     0.000000
0.07421875
                                                         0.015625
               -0.0078125
                             -0.0078125
```

ĺ

The compression ratio is 512*512*8 bits/86*86*(8 + 2*7 + 3*6) bits ≈ 6.7 .

The final image is obtained by computing the values of the Taylor polynomials, representing the intermediate image, at each pixel of the corresponding segment. The part S' of the obtained array, representing the final image (and corresponding to the piece S of the initial picture), is the following array 9.

ŧ

	-43-															
63 76 78	75		61 . 72 . 75	55 80 73	67 80 75	72 78 79	66 77 79	75	69 75 77	73 76 81	74 78 86	73 78 90				
	89 104 95		92 96 101	95 98 98	100	95	106	108	102	103	92 100 104	100	96	99	100 104	101 91
100	104	103	101	102 102 101	100	100	100	104	108	103	104	99	104	102 99	101 105	106 106
97	107	105	104	104 106 104	101	100	100	101	99	102	97	103 98 103	99	98 103	100 105	101 103
97	100	102	93	102 100 102	105	105	99	97	96	102	101 96 102	101	104	99 94		99 103
90 82 141	83	88	90	86 102 131	106	111	110	116	118	125	128	126	127	72 136	73 136	71 136
126	129	127	129	131 126 129	127	127	126	124	124	136	129	129	128	124 127	133 129	127 134
210	204	197	183	181 156 94	131	96	77	77	71	74	76	83	73	211 85	213 87	215 89
94 93 97	100	86	101 93 101			97	96	89 97 101		94 95 97	88 94 97	93 94 88	88 87 94		90 100	
82 137 138	137	136	88 138 132	89 129 129	138	134	140	136	135	134	130	139	135	130 129	99 134	137 131
		154	145	133 142 72	135	133	118	120			150 98 73	148 82 70	154 86 78	153 74	149 63	149 65
80 79 - 89	76 78 92	75 78 95	73 73 92	72 75 90	80 73 92	80 75 91	78 79 101	77 79 97	75 89 92	75 77 89	76 81 94	78 86 104	90	75 86	78 78	78 89

101 91 97	98	104 95 102	98 105 102	96 101 103	98	100 101 99	97	102	97	102 97 102	105	100 104 102	105	96 103		104
106	101	105	105	105	101	109	106	104	102	108 105 103	104	105	99 102 100	104 104	99 112	105 102
		107 103 102	101	105	104	109	102	99	102	99 103 102	96	97 96 99				105 ·
99 103 93	97 99 89	100 95 86	102 99 93		100 102 90	105 93 89	105 97 86		97 92 85	96 96 87	95	96 102 72	101 95 73	104 101	94 90	95 94
71 136 129	141	83 135 131	88 142 130	141	131	130	121	122	129	118 122 129	130	125	123	127 131	136 125	136 131
134	129	136	135	134	129	130	131	136	136	124 136 212	132	132	132	128 127	127 131	129 134
89		204 88 92	197 90 90	183 90 94	156 94 90		96 101 92	77 93 94	77 88 88	71 88 93	74 92 88	76 96 91	83 92 90	73 87	85 94	87 93
95 92 84	93 97 88	100 96 89	86 95 84	93 101 91	97 95 93	97	93		97 101 147	93 95 149	97	97		87 94	86 82	100 91
131	138	139	127	132	129	134	131	133	130	135 125 148	130	129	127	135 131	129 127	134 134
149 65 75	149 63 73	143 61 72	154 55 80	145 67 80	142 72 78	135 66 77	133 73 75	118 69 75	120 73 76	127 74 78	110 73 78	98 73 75	82 70 78	86 78	·74 80	63 76
78 89 104	79 89 98	78 92 96	78 95 98	73 92 100	75 90 95	73 92 106		101	79 97 103	89 92 100	77 89 100	81 94 96	86 104 99	90 100		78 96
104 102 104	91 97 103	98 105 101	102	105 102 100	103	103	99	103	96	97 106 104	102		104 102 99	105 101	103 106	95 100

102	99	110	104	101	100	101 102 100	102	98	100	103	105 103 98	99	105 98 103	102 100	104 101	112 97
114		102	102		99		100	102	98	102 101 96	102	102	99	103		109 97
95 94 83		89	86	93	91	102 90 110	89	86	83		87	74			101 71	
131	129	126	131	130	128	131 128 126	135	133	129	132	129	127	124	123 133	131 127	125 126
134	134	161	181	189	198	129 201 77	206	207	206	210	136 212 83	213	132 211 85	132 213	127 215	131 210
87 93 100		91 101 93	92	90	94	90	93 89 97		94	88	93	88	96 91 86			94 93
100 91 137		97 88 138	96 89 129	84			107	139	144	101 147 130	149	148	130			82 137
134	128	135	133	144	135	129 142 118	143	142	143	150	148					
63 76 78	65 75 78	63 73 73	61 72 75	55 80 73	67 80 75	72 78 79	66 77 79	73 75 89	69 75 77		74 7,8 86	73 78 90	73 75 86		78 78	80 79
78 96 98	89 104 95	89 98 105	92 96 101	98		90 95 97	106	108	102	97 103 105	100	100			100 104	101 91
100	104	103	101	102	100	103 100 106	100	104	108	103	104	99	104			
	107	105	104	106	101	100 100 102	100	101	99	102	97		99	98 103		

The picture representing the final image is shown in Fig. 4b.

Example 3 (Rotation of a picture)

The object picture is the same as in the Example 2. The required operation is the rotation by 90° in the counterclockwise direction (Fig. 5a represents the result of a rotation of the object picture).

The array of the gray levels of the rotated piece S' of the object picture is the following array 10.

105	100	107	10/	81 178 132	169	158	88	82	80	81	86	94	$\perp \perp \perp \perp$	191 118	190 123	188 127	
104	105	106	194	85 179 141	172	162	104	98	96	97	102	110	126	188 133	188 138	186 141	
192	192	124	184	89 180 154	174	166	121	115	113	114	119	128	141	185 148	185 153	184 156	
190	178	192	182	93 180 171	176	168	139	133	131	132	137	146	155	182 162	183 167	182 171	
179	173	178	180	97 179 191	176	170	158	152	150	151	156	164	170	180 177	180 182	180 185	:
177	168	174	177	101 178 215	176	171	178	172	170	171	176	184	185	177 192	178 197	178 200	
154	151	152	152	91 153 220	154	154	160	166	173	179	185	192	187	152 198	152 207	153 214	
145	144	145	146	82 146 224	147	148	152	157	162	166	171	176	196	143 206	143 214	144 221	
136	138	138	139	78 140 217	140	141	146	149	152	155	157	160	192	134 202	135 210	136 216	ĺ
129	131	132	132	78 133 198	134	134	140	141	143	144	145	146	176				
123	124	125	126	82 126 167	127	128	136	135	134	134	133	132	147				
117	118	118	119	91 120 125	120	121	132	129	127	125	122	120	106	115 114	116 121	116 126	

112	121	122	122	123	124	124	121	120	119	111 118 136	117	116	118	112 118	112 118	112 118	
114	118	119	120	120	121	122	119	118	117	110 117 134	116	115	118	114 118	114 118	114 118	
114	116	116	117	118	118	119	116	116	116	109 116 131	115	115	118	114 118	114 118	114 118	
112	113	114	114	115	116	116	114	114	114	109 114 128	115	115	118	112 118	112 118	112 118	
108	110	111	112	112	113	114	111	112	113	108 113 126	114	115	118	108 118	108 118	108 118	:
102	108	108	109	110	110	111	109	110	111	107 112 123	113	114	118	102 118	102 118	102 118	
20 96 115	102	102	103	104	104	105	107	109	110	111 110 115	109	107	113	103 112	101 112	98 113	
108	100	101	102	102	103	104	106	108	109	82 109 114	108	106	111	106 110	106 110	107 110	
111	99	100	100	101	102	102	104	106	107	58 107 113	106	104	110	100 108	104 107	108 108	
107	20 98 107	98	99	100	100	101	102	104	104	39 104 111	104	102	108	87 106	93 105	100 105	
22 95 102	96	97	98	98	99	100	98	100	101	26 101 110	100	98	106	65 104	. 75 102	85 102	
22 75 99	95	19 96 105	96	97	98	98	94	96	96	18 96 109	96	94	105	35 102	49 100	62 99	

The above rotation acts on the Taylor polynomials, representing the intermediate image, obtained in the Example 2, as follows: let the 6 x 6 pixel square segments, into which the original picture has been subdivided, be indexed by two indices i and j, in such a way that the middle segment has indices 0, 0. Denote the Taylor polynomial corresponding to the segment i, j by p_{ij}. Then:

- a. The indices i, j of each $p_{\bf ij}$ are replaced by $\,$ -j, i
- b. x is replaced by y, and y by -x.

Using the notations already used in discussing processing, $F(p_{ij}(x,y)) = p_{-j,i}(y,-x)$.

The result of the application of the corresponding subroutine to the Taylor polynomials in the intermediate range, obtained in the Example 2, is the intermediate range of the rotated picture. Its part P' corresponding to the rotated piece S', is the following array 11.

0.29296875	-0.0078125	0.0078125	0.015625	-0.000000	0.015625
	0.0312500	-0.0312500	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.45703125		-0.0000000	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.45703125	0.0000000		0.000000	-0.015625	0.000000
0.43750000	-0.0234375	0.0234375	0.000000	0.046875	0.000000
0.33203125	0.0156250	-0.0156250			0.000000
0.32031250	0.0781250	-0.0781250	0.000000	-0.000000	
0.33593750	0.000000	-0.0000000	0.015625	-0.015625	0.015625
0.37500000	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.27734375	-0.0078125	0.0078125	0.015625	-0.015625	0.015625
0.51171875	0.0234375	-0.0234375	0.015625	0.031250	0.015625
0.46093750	0.0312500	-0.0312500	0.031250	-0.000000	0.031250
0.36718750	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.015625	-0.000000	0.015625
0.21093750	-0.0937500	0.0937500	0.062500	-0.140625	0.062500
0.40234375	-0.0078125	0.0078125	0.000000	0.015625	0.000000
0.37109375	-0.0156250	0.0156250	-0.015625	-0.000000	-0.015625
0.35937500	-0.0234375	0.0234375	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.32031250	0.0312500	-0.0312500	-0.015625	-0.000000	-0.015625
0.75390625	0.0703125	-0.0703125	-0.078125	0.015625	-0.078125
0.73828125	0.0937500	-0.0937500	-0.140625	0.015625	-0.140625
0.48437500	0.0234375	-0.0234375	-0.093750	-0.093750	-0.093750
0.25781250	0.0000000	-0.0000000	-0.046875	0.078125	-0.046875
0.40234375	-0.0312500	0.0312500	-0.015625	-0.015625	-0.015625
0.32421875	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.31640625	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.031250	-0.000000	0.031250
0.34765625	-0.0625000	0.0625000	-0.031250	0.015625	-0.031250
0.68359375	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.078125	0.046875	0.078125
0.59765625	0.0703125	-0.0703125	0.140625	0.031250	0.140625
0.53906250	0.1640625	-0.1640625	0.046875	-0.000000	0.046875
0.26562500	0.0312500	-0.0312500	0.015625	-0.000000	0.015625
0.33984375	0.0546875	-0.0546875	0.046875	-0.000000	0.046875
0.38671875	0.0781250	-0.0781250	0.031250	0.015625	0.031250
0.39843750	0.0937500	-0.0937500	0.046875	-0.000000	0.046875
0.26171875	0.0625000	-0.0625000	0.000000	-0.031250	0.000000
0.70703125	-0.0156250	0.0156250	0.015625	-0.062500	0.015625
0.71875000	-0.0312500	0.0312500	0.000000	0.015625	0.000000
0.71093750	-0.0078125	0.0078125	-0.015625	0.046875	-0.015625
0.47656250	0.2109375	-0.2109375	0.015625	-0.000000	0.015625
0.63281250	0.1718750	-0.1718750	0.00000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.63671875	0.1953125	-0.1953125	0.062500	-0.000000	0.062500
0.74218750	0.1640625	-0.1640625	-0.046875	-0.000000	-0.046875
0.26562500	0.0390625	-0.0390625	0.078125	-0.078125	0.078125
0.44921875	-0.1250000	0.1250000	0.093750	0.015625	0.093750
0.51171875	-0.0859375	0.0859375	0.015625	-0.000000	0.015625
0.53125000	-0.0781250	0.0781250	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.57812500	-0.1171875	0.1171875	0.015625	-0.062500	0.015625
0.80468750	-0.2031250	0.2031250	-0.218750	-0.015625	-0.218750
0.81250000	-0.2265625	0.2265625	-0.203125	-0.015625	-0.203125
0.70703125	-0.2187500	0.2187500	-0.031250	0.015625	-0.031250
0.43750000	-0.1171875	0.1171875	-0.156250	0.156250	-0.156250
0.41796875	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.000000	-0.015625	0.000000
0.43750000	-0.0234375	0.0234375	-0.031250	-0.000000	-0.031250
0.44921875	-0.0312500	0.0312500	0.00000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.44531250	-0.0156250	0.0156250	0.000000	0.015625	0.00000
0.45703125	0.0000000	-0.0000000	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.49218750	-0.0156250	0.0156250	0.000000	-0.015625	0.000000
0.50781250	-0.0312500	0.0312500	0.00000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.07421875	-0.0078125	0.0078125	0.00000	-0.015625	0.000000
0.15234375	-0.1875000	0.1875000	0.093750	-0.062500	0.093750
0.37500000	-0.1406250	0.1406250	-0.140625	0.109375	-0.140625
0.38671875	-0.0156250	0.0156250	0.000000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.41015625	-0.0312500	0.0312500	-0.015625	-0.000000	-0.015625
0:41015625	-0.0312500	0.0312500	0.000000	-0.015625	0.000000
0.43750000	-0.0390625	0.0390625	0.00000	-0.000000	0.000000
0.43359375	-0.0156250	0.0156250	0.00000	-0.000000	0.00000

(

The final image, produced from the data rotated in a compressed form, is shown in Fig. 5b.

Example 4 (Producing a negative picture)

The object picture is the same as in the Example 2. It is required to produce a negative of this picture. Under this operation each gray level value z must be replaced by z' = 255 - z.

The negative of the original picture is shown in Fig. 6a. The array S" of the gray levels, corresponding to the negative of the piece S, is the following.

			,				-55-	-									
172	164	164	162	158	150	140	127	112	98	154 83 144	68	54	32	26	161 32	166 50	
165	166	167	165	160	153	143	127	112	97	151 83 146	68	53	36	29	156 35	160 53	
161	169	170	168	163	156	146	128	114	99	151 84 147	70	55	41	150 34	153 39	157 57	
160	172	172	170	166	158	148	132	117	102	154 88 148	73	58	48	150 41	153 45	156 62	
162	174	175	173	168	161	151	137	122	107	159 93 147	78	63	57	153 49	155 53	158 70	
166	177	178	176	171	164	154	144	129	114	167 100 145	85	70	68	159 59	160 63	163 79	
187	175	175	173	170	167	162	161	145	127	240 109 151	91	71	63				
194	184	183	181	179	175	171	169	153	136	229 118 149	99	79	70	84	98	192 110	
197	189	188	186	183	180	175	174	158	141	216 123 148	104	84	76	192 89	191 100	192 111	i
195	190	189	187	185	181	177	175	159	142	200 124 148	105	85	82		185 103		
189	188	187	185	183	179	175	173	157	140	181 122 149	103	83	-89	171 98	174 106	180 114	
178	182	181	179	177	173	169	167	151	134	160 116 151	97	77	95				

187	193	184	173	159	142	123	97	93	89	171 87 153	85	84	101	107	162 114	172 121
171	168	159	148	134	117	98	86	83	81	166 79 153	79	79	101			
152	150	141	130	116	99	80	77	76	75	161 75 154	76	77	102	138 109	138 115	142 122
132	139	131	119	105	89	69	71	71	71	157 73 155	75	78	103			
111	136	127	116	102	85	66	68	69	71	152 73 155	77	81	103			
87	139	131	119	105	89	69	67	7)	73	147 77 156	82	87	104			
78	103	110	110	102	86	61	70	71	73	137 75 144	76	78	101			
75	98	107	108	100	85	62	67	69	71	134 73 147	75	77	102			
72	94	104	105	99	84	62	65	67	70	131 72 151	75	77	103			
70	90	100	103	97	84	62	64	67	70	129 73 155	75	78	103			
67	86	97	100	96	83	62	64	67	70	126 74 159	77	80	104			
64	81	94	98	94	82	63	64	68	72	123 76 162	79	83	105			

₹.

The above operation on Taylor polynomials is the following:

$$F(a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 y + a_{11} x^2 + 2a_{12} xy + a_{22} y^2) =$$

1 -
$$a_0$$
- $a_1 \times - a_2 y - a_{11} \times ^2 - 2a_{12} \times y - a_{22} y^2$

(in the same rescaling as above).

The corresponding subroutine, applied to the Taylor polynomials of the intermediate image obtained in the Example 2, gives the intermediate image of the negative. The part of the polynomials array P", corresponding to the piece S" of the negative, is the following.

```
0.62500000
                 -0.0000000
                               -0.0000000
                                               -0.000000
                                                             -0.000000
                                                                          -0.000000
  0.64062500
                 0.0078125
                              0.0234375
                                             -0.000000
                                                          -0.000000
                                                                        -0.000000
  0.68359375
                 0.0078125
                              -0.0000000
                                              -0.000000
                                                           -0.000000
                                                                         -0.031250
  0.60156250
                                                           -0.000000
                 0.0078125
                              -0.0937500
                                              -0.000000
                                                                         -0.046875
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                                                         -0.015625
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-0.000000

The final image produced from the intermediate negative image, obtained as above, is shown in Fig. 6b.

While a number of embodiments of the invention have been discussed and illustrated, it will be understood that the invention may be carried out in a number of ways and with many modifications, adaptations, and variations, by persons skilled in the art, without departing from its spirit and from the scope of the appended claims.

CLAIMS

- 1 Process for the production of images of objects, as hereinbefore defined, comprosing the steps of:
- (1) Approximating the object by a model comprising at least one differentiable component.
- (2) Establishing the maximum allowable error ε and the degree k of the polynomials by which the differentiable component(s) of the model are to be approximated.
- (3) Constructing a grid of a suitable pitch h.
- (4) Computing the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials of the aforesaid differentiable component(s) at selected points of said grid.
- 2 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is defined in a space having more than three dimensions.
- 3 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a line.
- 4 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a surface.
- 5 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a solid.

- 6 Process according to claim 1, wherein the model further comprises at least one non-differentiable component.
- 7 Process according to claim 1, comprising carrying out the said steps at least in part concurrently.
- 8 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is defined by data which are values and/or relationships embodied in physical entities.
- 9 Process according to claim 8, comprising the preliminary step of storing the data defining the object in an electronic memory.
- 10 Process according to claim 1, comprising determining the parameters of the components of the model by minimizing a quantity representing an error
- 11 Process according to claim 10, wherein the quantity representing and error is the quadratical error.
- 12 Process according to claim 1, wherein the non-differentiable component(s) of the model embody the same discontinuities as the object, and the differentiable component(s) represent the deviations of the object lfrom the non-differentiable component.
- '13 Process according to claim 12, wherein the model has the form:

- (1) $\Phi(x) = Hx_o, a, b, c, d(x) + \phi(x)$ wherein H is defined by $H(x) = a(x-x_o) + b$, if $x \ge x_o$ or $H(x) = c(x-x_o) + d$, if x is less than x_o .
- 13 Process according to claim 1, wherein the model is a differentiable function of another function which embodies the non-differentiable characteristics of the object.
- 14 Process according to claim 1, wherein each grid pitch is calculated from the formula
- (3) $CMh^{k+1} \le \varepsilon$

wherein C = 1/(k+1)! and M is the maximum, at each grid point, of the absolute value of the derivatives of degree k+1 of the differentiable component or components of the model.

- 15- Process according to claim 1, further comprising constructing an adjusted image line by applying to each differentiable component the Whitney subroutine, and minimizing the quntity W thus computed, under such constraints that the results of the minimization do not deviate from the initial data by more than the allowed error.
- 16 Process according to claim 1, further comprising rounding off the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials to a maximum allowable error greater than the original one.

- 18 Process according to claim 1, further comprising separating a temporary image into components of increasing fineness, constructing a grid which is sparser than the one used for obtaining said image and the pitch of which is determined by the resolution required by the lowest fineness of said components, obtaining thereforom a second temporary image, subtracting said second temporary image from the original one to obtain a first residual image, and repeating the same steps for successively finer components, correspondingly obtaining successive residual images, whereby to compute coefficients of Taylor polynomials on several grids having increasingly higher resolutions.
- 19 Process according to claim 1, further comprising applying to the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials any desired known encoding method.
- 20 Process according to claim 1, further comprising applying to any data obtained in carrying out the process any desired known encoding method.

 $(\cdot$

21 - Process according to claim 1, further comprising constructing a final image by a procedure comprising the steps of dividing the domain, in which the temporary image has been defined, into possibly overlapping regions by means of a grid, each region being a portion of the grid around a grid node, and constructing curves representing the Taylor polynomials of degree k from the coefficients defining the temporary image at each grid node.

22 - Process according to claim 1, further comprising processing the obtained data, representing an intermediate image, by applying thereto an operator, whereby to obtain an image representing an object which is the result of applying to the original object the said operator.

COMPRESSED IMAGE PRODUCTION, STORAGE, TRANSMISSION AND PROCESSING

ABSTRACT

Images of objects are produced by:

- (1) Approximating the object by a model comprising at least one differentiable component.
- (2) Establishing the maximum allowable error ε and the degree k of the polynomials by which the differentiable component(s) of the model are to be approximated.
- (3) Constructing a grid of a suitable pitch h.
- (4) Computing the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials of the aforesaid differentiable component(s) at selected points of said grid.

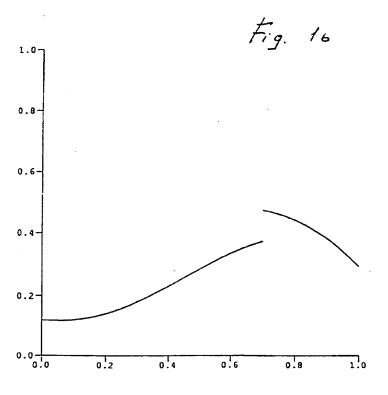
- 2 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is defined in a space having more than three dimensions.
- 3 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a line.
- 4 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a surface.
- 5 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is a solid.
- 6 Process according to claim 1, wherein the model further comprises at least one non-differentiable component.
- 7 Process according to claim 1, comprising carrying out the said steps at least in part concurrently.
- 8 Process according to claim 1, wherein the object is defined by data which are values and/or relationships embodied in physical entities.
- 9 Process according to claim 8, comprising the preliminary step of storing the data defining the object in an electronic memory.
- 10 Process for the production of images of objects, according to the claim 1, wherein said second component of the model is defined by minimizing, by a predetermined subroutine, a quantity representing the deviation from the object of a model consisting of the first and second components.
- 11 Process for the production of images of objects according to claim 1, wherein the data defining the object, the data defining the model, and the data defining the images, are digital data.
- 12 Process according to claim 1; wherein the model has the form:

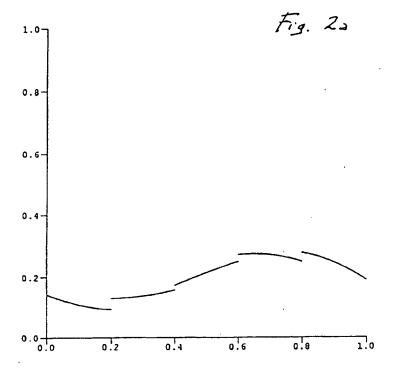
- (1) $\Phi(x) = Hx_0, a, b, c, d(x) + \phi(x)$ wherein H is defined by $H(x) = a(x-x_0) + b$, if $x \ge x_0$ or $H(x) = c(x-x_0) + d$, if x is less than x_0 .
- 13 Process according to claim 1, wherein the model is a differentiable function of another function which embodies the non-differentiable characteristics of the object.
- 14 Process according to claim 1, wherein each grid pitch is a calculated from the formula
- (3) $CMh^{k+1} \le \varepsilon$

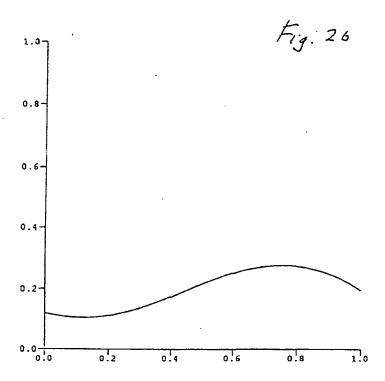
wherein C = 1/(k+1)! and M is the maximum, at each grid point, of the absolute value of the derivatives of degree k+1 of the differentiable component or components of the model.

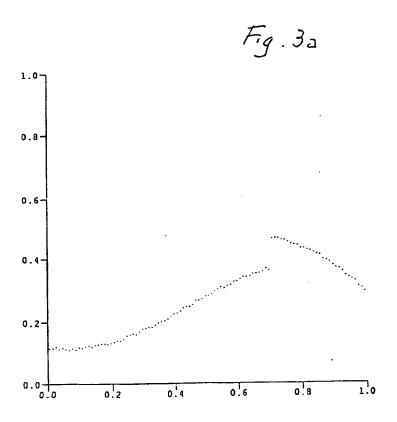
- 15- Process according to claim 1, further comprising constructing an adjusted image line by applying to each differentiable component the Whitney subroutine, and minimizing the quntity W thus computed, under such constraints that the results of the minimization do not deviate from the initial data by more than the allowed error.
- 16 Process according to claim 1, further comprising rounding off the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials to a maximum allowable error greater than the original one.

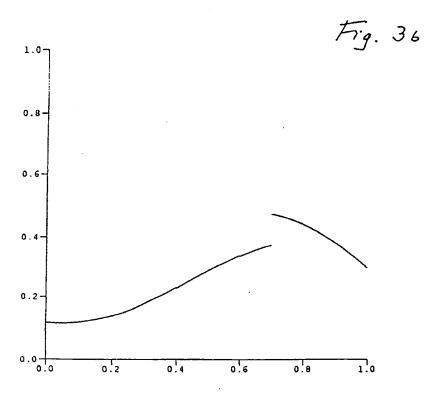
- 17 Process according to claim 1, further comprising separating a temporary image into components of increasing fineness, constructing a grid which is sparser than the one used for obtaining said image and the pitch of which is determined by the resolution required by the lowest fineness of said components, obtaining thereforom a second temporary image, subtracting said second temporary image from the original one to obtain a first residual image, and repeating the same steps for successively finer components, correspondingly obtaining successive residual images, whereby to compute coefficients of Taylor polynomials on several grids having increasingly higher resolutions.
- 18 Process according to claim 1, further comprising applying to the coefficients of the Taylor polynomials any desired known encoding method.
- 19 Process according to claim 1, further comprising applying to any data obtained in carrying out the process any desired known encoding method.
- 20 Process according to claim 1, further comprising constructing a final image by a procedure comprising the steps of dividing the domain, in which the temporary image has been defined, into possibly overlapping regions by means of a grid, each region being a portion of the grid around a grid node, and constructing curves representing the Taylor polynomials of degree k from the coefficients defining the temporary image at each grid node.

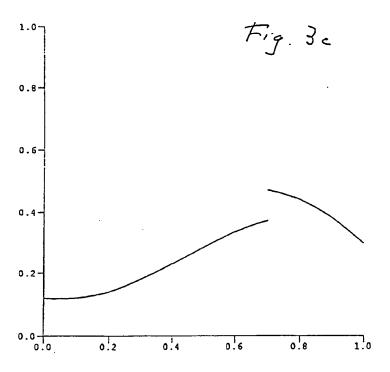












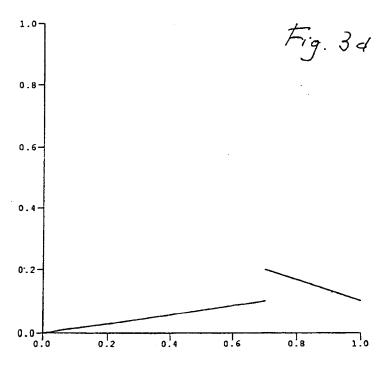




Fig. 42



Fig. 45



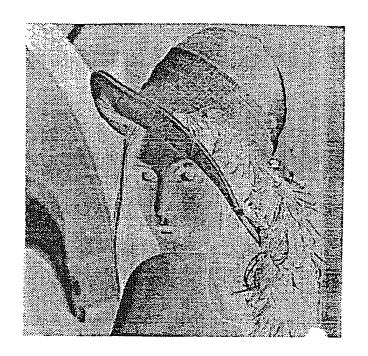
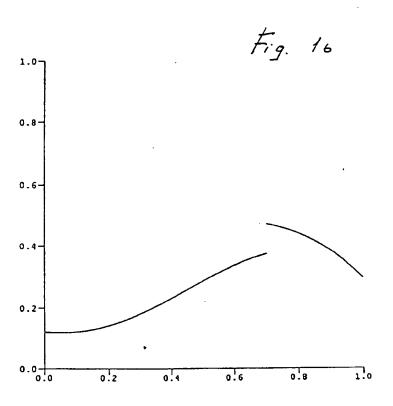


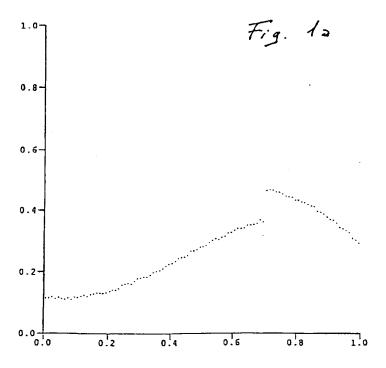
Fig. 6a

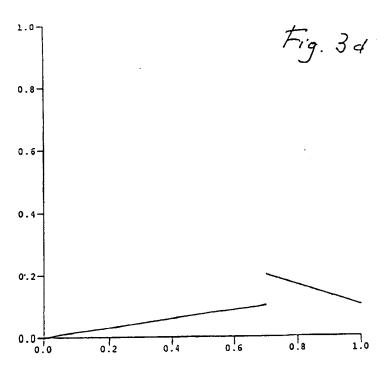


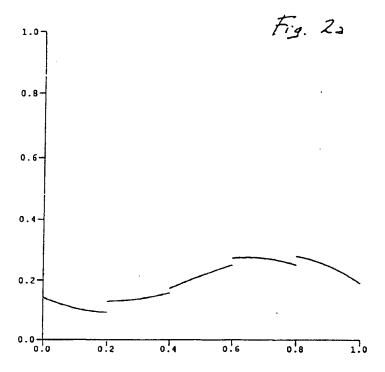
tig. 66

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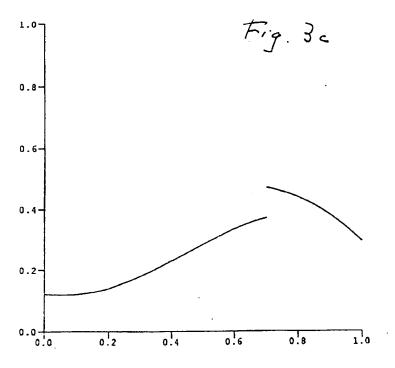




Fig. 45



Fig. 42

tig. 5

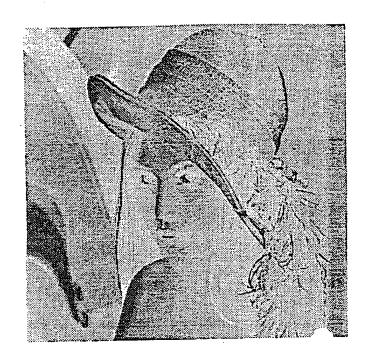
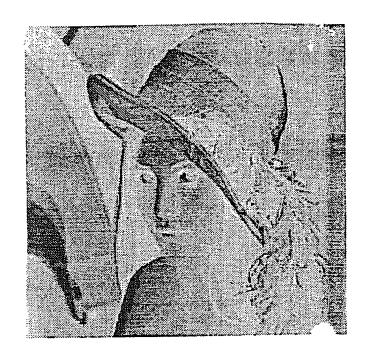


Fig. 6a



tig. 66